



Bike Edina Task Force: News & Meeting Outcomes

January 12, 2012

Purpose: The Bike Edina Task Force (BETF) meets to serve citizens and partner with City staff and elected officials to promote bicycle improvements in Edina for education, encouragement, infrastructure, enforcement, and ongoing assessment. We support implementation of the approved [City of Edina Comprehensive Bicycle Transportation Plan](#) that serves all levels of bicyclists, connects key destinations including safe routes to schools, and integrates with the Twin Cities' regional bike network. Our **vision** is a progressive bicycle-friendly community where citizens can integrate cycling into their daily lives.

Time & Location: BETF monthly on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 8 p.m. in the Mayor's Conference Room at Edina City Hall. For questions contact Brad Schaeppi or Peter Kelley, Co-Chairs. Guests are welcome.

Distribution: BETF, guests, City Manager, City Engineer, Edina Police BETF Liaison Sgt. Timothy Olson, SHIP contact Robyn Wiesman, and Mayor & City Council. Also, Jack Sullivan to forward to the Edina Transportation Commission, and Dianne Plunkett Latham to post for the Edina Energy and Environment Commission.

- **Present:** Brad Schaeppi, Kirk Johnson, Alex Johnson, Jennifer Janovy, Don Eyberg, Sally Dunn, Peter Kelley, Larry Olson, Tom Randall, Alice Hulbert, Rob Olson
- **Absent:** Marty Mathis, Carl Gulbrandson, Carl Follstad, Ellen Jones
- **Guests:** Katie Meyer, Flynn Johnson from do.town
- **Recorded by:** Sally Dunn

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1. **Do. Town:** Guests Katie Meyer and Flynn Rico Johnson gave a presentation on the new Do.town project. This 18 month initiative working in Bloomington, Richfield and Edina is focused on creating a healthier community, working on long-term change to policies that will support nutrition, biking, walking, work-sites, etc. They are looking for areas where they could assist the BETF and the city of Edina, in part by developing additional contacts within the community. Their strength lies in community organizing. They are creating a website and would be willing to lend their support to BETF initiatives when

needed. It was suggested that the Edina Energy and Environment Commission be contacted. Katie can be contacted at Katie@grassrootssolutions.com

2. **Bike Blvd Update:** Approval was gained for using Transit for Livable Communities (TLC) funds for engineering consultants. Alliant is city staff's preferred consultant. They have worked closely with TLC in the past. The city council needs to vote next Tuesday on approving the consultant. In February, there will be public meetings with the consultant. In March, there will be a public hearing. No specific dates yet. The plan is to implement in July/August.
3. **Bike Striping:** At a previous meeting, the BETF requested 4 city streets be striped with bike lanes. The Edina Transportation Commission modified the routes, changing 50th to Antrim. (keeping Cahill, 70th west of 100, and Valley View from 62 to Antrim). City council also approved. Next steps are for city staff to undertake specific engineering studies on the streets identified with the thought that the striping be carried this summer. This initiative would almost double the number of bike routes in Edina. Peter distributed a list indicating growth of bike lanes since 2007. There were none in 2007 and now are 12.3 miles. 5.3 are Share the Road; 7 are Bike Lane.
4. **General Discussion:** How to work more with Bloomington and Richfield in the do.town project. David Gepner leads the bike group in Richfield. There was discussion about how to better educate the public about the different types of bike lanes and how to advocate for better bike lanes. There was also discussion of how to keep the roads cleaner for bikes after the initial spring clean-up and getting maintenance of those roads in the bike plan. Peter will check with Wayne about this. Question was also raised about status of narrow bike lanes on Interlachen Blvd at Intersection of Blake Rd.
5. **Bike Rodeo:** Larry reported on the bike rodeo. It will be Saturday, April 21 at Cornelia Elementary. There will be different skill stations as in the past two years. Do.town could have a table with information about the project. Next month, Larry will start lining up volunteers and will contact the police department.
6. **Transit Connections:** Don was in contact with SW Metro Transit. Don is on their list to be kept informed. There will be some committee related to light rail connections in the area and Don hopes to get on that committee.

7. **ETC Update:** Jennifer reported that a National Complete Streets workshop is planned. It's on Wednesday, February 15, 8-noon at Braemar. The focus will be on Living Streets. There will be a public evening session on February 14. Alice volunteered to attend. The Council is interviewing candidates for the transportation commission. Jennifer mentioned a person who may be interested in serving on BETF. Jennifer also mentioned it would be helpful to give some advice to the city engineers when road construction is occurring. There was discussion of the Tracy/Benton intersection and widening to road, adding bike lanes. Tracy is a key safe route to schools.
8. **BETF WEB:** page was going to be handled by Andrew, but he may no longer be able to do this. Peter suggested having blog articles on the site- perhaps one a quarter. On blogs, categories can be created. Kirk volunteered to write periodically. Peter passed around a sign-up sheet. It was agreed that Peter should review any submissions. The do.town Web site will be launched in a few weeks and there could be links to that. Peter reminded all to go to the Bike Edina facebook page.
9. **Request for BETF Participation:** Paul Thompson is organizing an event, Edina Dialogue: The Environment, Economy and Food Supply From global to Local in April 19-6-9 pm at the Fick Auditorium, Edina High School, and would like BETF to have a table.
10. **Edina City Code:** Jennifer reported that the Edina City code is under review in 2012 and bike-friendly codes could be included. Asked do.Town members for possible model code to review for ideas would be helpful.